

Application No.: 09/818,006
Attorney Docket No.: SAA-58 (402 P 340)
Reply to Office Action of July 29, 2005

REMARKS

As a result of the above amendments, Claims 1-27 remain pending. Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 13-15 and 24 have been amended. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Claim 12 has previously been held allowable. Accordingly, Claims 1-27 are at issue.

Applicant thanks for the Examiner for the telephone interview of October 31, 2005, during which several proposed amendments to the claims of the present application were discussed. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments made herein are in accordance with the substance of that telephone interview, and that the amendments made herein are an effort to put the claims of the present application in condition for allowance.

Remarks Concerning Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In ¶ 2 of the July 29, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 15-27 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. The Examiner's rejection concerned the term "training resource". Claim 15 has been herein amended to clarify that it is "a website including training materials" that is operatively coupled to the user device, for providing a training signal and for recording the difficulty encountered by the user. Support for that amendment, including a description of the training website and its operation, is found on pp. 5-7 of the application as originally filed. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 15, as amended herein, satisfies the requirements of § 112, and is in condition for allowance. Claims 16-27 are dependent on Claim 15, and Applicant submits that those claims likewise satisfy the requirements of § 112 for the same reasons.

Though not rejected by the Examiner under § 112, Claim 1 has been similarly amended so as to clarify that a website including training materials provides the training signal to the user. Claims 6-8, 11, 13-14 and 24 have been amended in conformance therewith; namely, "training resource" has been amended to "website". Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims satisfy the requirements of § 112 and are in condition for allowance.

Remarks Concerning Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

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In ¶ 3 of the July 29, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-18 and 20-27 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,535,422 to Chiang et al. ("Chiang") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0059378 of Mustafa ("Mustafa"). In light of the amendments made herein to Claims 1 and 15, Applicant respectfully submits that that rejection has been overcome, and that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Both Claims 1 and 15 have been herein amended to further clarify that the system and method of the present invention is for compiling statistics in order to determine which parts of the training and programming software cause more user difficulties, and which parts cause less difficulties. Neither Chiang nor Mustafa disclose that element.

Claims 1 and 15 have been further amended herein to clarify that the website instructs the user as to how to overcome the difficulties encountered in programming the programmable logic controller. Neither Chiang nor Mustafa disclose that element, either.

Claims 2-4, 6-11 and 13-14 depend on Claim 1, and Claims 16-18 and 20-27 depend on Claim 15. Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 2-4, 6-11, 13-14, 16-18 and 20-27 are thus patentable over the combination of Chiang and Mustafa for the same reasons Claims 1 and 15 are patentable.

The Examiner has also rejected Claims 5 and 19 as being unpatentable over Chiang and Mustafa in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,239,617 to Gardner et al. ("Gardner"). Like Chiang and Mustafa, Gardner does not disclose the features which have been herein amended into Claims 1 and 15. Claim 5 depends on Claim 1, and Claim 19 depends on Claim 15. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that Claims 5 and 19 are also now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-27 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the claims to issue. If it may be of assistance to contact the undersigned Attorney regarding the present invention, the Examiner is invited to do so. The

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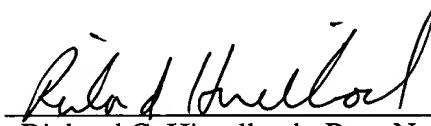
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Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23-0280 in connection with any fees associated herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 31, 2005

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

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